

CLEAN VERSION
OF
CLAIM AS AMENDED:

What is claimed is:

1. A trimming attachment for a lawn maintenance vehicle, the attachment comprising:
 - a frame member which is removably connectable to the lawn maintenance vehicle;
 - a pivot arm for inducing lateral motion in a horizontal direction having first and second ends, the first end of the pivot arm being connected to the frame member at a pivot point;
 - a motorized trimming means attached to the second end of the pivot arm;
 - means for automatically adjusting the vertical height of the motorized trimming means;
 - and
 - a control lever connected to the pivot arm between the first and second ends.
2. A trimming attachment for a lawn maintenance vehicle, the attachment comprising:
 - a frame member which is bolted to the lawn maintenance vehicle;
 - a pivot arm for inducing lateral motion in a horizontal direction having first and second ends, the first end of the pivot arm being connected to the frame member at a pivot point;
 - a motorized trimming means attached to the second end of the pivot arm;
 - means for automatically adjusting the vertical height of the motorized trimming means;
 - and
 - a control lever connected to the pivot arm between the first and second ends.
3. The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 1 wherein the pivot arm is connected to the frame member by means of a pivot pin.

4. A trimming attachment for a lawn maintenance vehicle, the attachment comprising:

a frame member which is removably connectable to the lawn maintenance vehicle;

a pivot arm for inducing lateral motion in a horizontal direction having first and second ends, the first end of the pivot arm being connected to the frame member at a pivot point;

a motorized trimming means attached to the second end of the pivot arm and powered by electricity;

means for automatically adjusting the vertical height of the motorized trimming means; and

a control lever connected to the pivot arm between the first and second ends.

5. The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 1 wherein the motorized trimming means is powered by hydraulics.

7. The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 1 wherein the control lever is operated by hand.

8. The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 1 wherein the control lever is operated by foot.

9. The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 1 wherein the control lever is connected to the pivot arm by means of a connecting rod.

10. A trimming attachment for a lawn maintenance vehicle, the attachment comprising:

- a frame member which is removably connectable to the lawn maintenance vehicle;
- a pivot arm for inducing lateral motion in a horizontal direction having first and second ends, the first end of the pivot arm being connected to the frame member at a pivot point;
- a motorized trimming means attached to the second end of the pivot arm;
- means for automatically adjusting the vertical height of the motorized trimming means;

and

- a control lever connected to the pivot arm between the first and second ends by means of a connecting cable.

11. The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 1 wherein the means for automatically adjusting the vertical height of the motorized trimming means comprises:

- the pivot arm having first and second portions, the first portion of the pivot arm including the first end of the pivot arm which is connected to the frame member and the second portion of the pivot arm including the second end of the pivot arm to which the motorized trimming means is attached;

- the first portion of the pivot arm being attached to the second portion of the pivot arm by a pivoting connection such that the second portion of the pivot arm is allowed to move in the vertical direction.

12. The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 11 wherein the pivoting connection is at least one pivoting member.

13. A trimming attachment for a lawn maintenance vehicle, the attachment comprising:

a frame member which is removably connectable to the lawn maintenance vehicle;

a pivot arm having first and second ends, the first end of the pivot arm being connected to the frame member at a pivot point;

a motorized trimming means attached to the second end of the pivot arm;

means for automatically adjusting the vertical height of the motorized trimming means comprising:

the pivot arm having first and second portions, the first portion of the pivot arm including the first end of the pivot arm which is connected to the frame member and the second portion of the pivot arm including the second end of the pivot arm to which the motorized trimming means is attached;

the first portion of the pivot arm being attached to the second portion of the pivot arm by a pivoting connection such that the second portion of the pivot arm is allowed to move in the vertical direction;

the pivoting connection comprising:

two vertical members, one of which is attached to the first portion of the pivot arm and one of which is attached to the second portion of the pivot arm; and

an upper set of pivot members and a lower set of pivot members; the lower set of pivot members being pivotally connected at their ends to the vertical members of the first and second portions of the pivot arm;

the upper set of pivot members each being pivotally connected at one end to the vertical member attached to the second portion of the pivot arm and being pivotally connected at a point along the length of each upper pivot member to the vertical member attached to the first portion of the pivot arm;

the upper and lower set of pivot members being connected to the vertical members such that the pivot members are substantially parallel to each other; and

the upper set of pivot members extending beyond the vertical member attached to the first portion of the pivot arm and being connected to a counterbalance means; and
a control lever connected to the pivot arm between the first and second ends.

14. The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 13 wherein the upper set of pivot members are connected to each other by a plate.

15. The trimming attachment as set forth in claim 13 wherein the counterbalance means is an adjustable spring.

17. A trimming attachment for a lawn maintenance vehicle, the attachment comprising:

a frame member which is integral with the lawn maintenance vehicle;
a pivot arm for inducing lateral motion in a horizontal direction having first and second ends, the first end of the pivot arm being connected to the frame member at a pivot point;
a motorized trimming means attached to the second end of the pivot arm;
means for automatically adjusting the vertical height of the motorized trimming means;
and
a control lever connected to the pivot arm between the first and second ends.

18. A trimming attachment for a lawn maintenance vehicle, the attachment comprising:

- a frame member which is integral with the lawn maintenance vehicle;
- a pivot arm for inducing lateral motion in a horizontal direction having first and second ends, the first end of the pivot arm being connected to the frame member at a pivot point;
- a motorized trimming means attached to the second end of the pivot arm;
- the pivot arm having first and second portions, the first portion of the pivot arm including the first end of the pivot arm which is connected to the frame member and the second portion of the pivot arm including the second end of the pivot arm to which the motorized trimming means is attached;
- the first portion of the pivot arm being attached to the second portion of the pivot arm by a pivoting connection such that the second portion of the pivot arm is allowed to move in the vertical direction; and
- a control lever connected to the pivot arm between the first and second ends.